

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 3, 4, 6, 8-10, 15-17, 20, 21 23, 25-27 and 32-34 as follows.

1. (Original) A method of dealing with a connection context request to establish a connection between a mobile station (MS) and a network gateway element, the method including the steps of:

- (a) receiving in the gateway element a connection context request;
- (b) determining in the gateway element whether binding information is required;
- (c) determining whether binding information was supplied with the connection context request; and
- (d) in the event that the binding information is required and was not supplied, responding to the request on the basis of a policy determined by the operator of the network.

2. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein step (d) includes supplying a different resource level from that requested in the connection context request in the event the binding information is required and was not supplied.

3. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, further including the steps of:

- (f) activating the connection context; and
- (g) informing the MS that charging will differ from that associated with the resource level requested.

4. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein the resource level is a Quality of Service (QoS) parameter.

5. (Original) A method according to claim 4, wherein step (e) includes downgrading the QoS.

6. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 4 ~~or 5~~, further including the step of informing the MS of the change in QoS.

7. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein reducing the resource level includes the step of rejecting the connection context request.

8. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein the context request is a packet data protocol (PDP) context request.

9. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein the network gateway element is a serving GPRS support node (SGSN) or a gateway GPRS support node (GGSN).

10. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, including the step, prior to step (a), of providing the network gateway element with access to a list of Access Point Names (APNs) that are IP Multimedia Subsystem related, and wherein step (c) includes determining whether the connection context request refers to an APN on the list.

11. (Original) A method of dealing with a connection context request to establish a connection between a mobile station (MS) and a network gateway element, the method including the steps of:

(a) receiving in the network gateway element a connection context request, the connection context request including binding information and traffic flow parameters, the traffic flow parameters being indicative of intended packet filtering;

(b) sending an authorisation request from the network gateway element to a network policy control element;

(c) receiving, in the network gateway element, a packet classifier from the policy control element in response to the authorisation request, the packet classifier being intended for use by the gateway element;

(d) determining whether a conflict exists between attribute values of the traffic flow parameters and attribute values of the packet classifier; and

(e) in the event that there is a conflict, informing the MS.

12. (Original) A method according to claim 11, further including the step, after step (d), of:

(f) in the event there is a conflict, rejecting the connection context.

13. (Original) A method according to claim 11, further including the steps of determining suitable traffic flow parameter values and informing the MS of those values, in the event the conflict exists.

14. (Original) A method according to claim 11, further including the steps, when the conflict exists, of:

determining revised traffic flow parameter values to overcome the conflict;

accepting the connection context; and

informing the MS of the revised traffic flow parameters.

15. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 13 ~~or 14~~, wherein the MS is informed via a protocol configuration option message.

16. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims 11 to 15~~ claim 11, wherein the context request is a packet data protocol (PDP) context request.

17. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims 11 to 16~~ claim 11, wherein the network gateway element is a serving GPRS support node (SGSN) or a gateway GPRS support node (GGSN).

18. (Original) Mobile telecommunications network apparatus for dealing with a connection context request from a mobile station MS, the apparatus including a network gateway element configured to:

- (a) receive a connection context request;
- (b) determine whether binding information is required;
- (c) determine whether binding information was supplied with the connection context request; and
- (d) in the event that the binding information is required and was not supplied, responding to the request on the basis of a policy determined by the operator of the network.

19. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 18, configured to supply a different resource level from that requested in the connection context request in the event the binding information is required and was not supplied.

20. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to claim 18 ~~or 19~~, configured to:

- (f) activate the connection context; and

(g) inform the MS that charging will differ from that associated with the resource level requested.

21. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to ~~any one of claims 18 to 20~~ claim 18, wherein the resource level is a Quality of Service (QoS) parameter.

22. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 21, configured, in step (e), to downgrade the QoS.

23. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to claim 21 ~~or 22~~, configured to inform the MS of the change in QoS.

24. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 18, wherein reducing the resource level includes rejecting the connection context request.

25. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to ~~any one of claim 18 to 24~~ claim 18, wherein the context request is a packet data protocol (PDP) context request.

26. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to ~~any one of claims 18 to 25~~ claim 18, wherein the network gateway element is a serving GPRS support node (SGSN) or a gateway GPRS support node (GGSN).

27. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to ~~any one claims 18 to 26~~ claim 18, wherein the network gateway element has access to a list of Access Point Names (APNs) that are IP Multimedia Subsystem related, the apparatus being configured to determine whether the connection context request refers to an APN on the list.

28. (Original) Mobile telecommunication network apparatus for dealing with a connection context request from a mobile station (MS), the apparatus including a network gateway element configured to:

(a) receive a connection context request, the connection context request including binding information and traffic flow parameters, the traffic flow parameters being indicative of intended packet filtering;

(b) send an authorisation request from the network gateway element to a network policy control element;

(c) receive a packet classifier from the policy control element in response to the authorisation request, the packet classifier being intended for use by the gateway element;

(d) determine whether a conflict exists between attribute values of the traffic flow parameters and attribute values of the packet classifier; and

(e) in the event that there is a conflict, inform the MS.

29. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 28, being configured, in the event there is a conflict, to reject the connection context.

30. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 28, being configured, in the event there is a conflict, to determine suitable traffic flow parameter values and informing the MS of those values.

31. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 28, being configured, in the event there is a conflict, to:

determine revised traffic flow parameter values to overcome the conflict;

accept the connection context; and

inform the MS of the revised traffic flow parameters.

32. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to claim 29 ~~or 30~~, configured to inform the MS via a protocol configuration option message.

33. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to ~~any one of claims 28 to 32~~ claim 28, wherein the context request is a packet data protocol (PDP) context request.

34. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims 28 to 33~~ claim 28, wherein the network gateway element is a serving GPRS support node (SGSN) or a gateway GPRS support node (GGSN).